

POLICE BELIEVE GIRL SLAIN HERE

Washington Sleuths Have
Theory of Trunk Murder.

KILLED IN A HOTEL

Detectives Make Startling State-
ments Concerning Death.

Miss Elsie Sigel, the Victim, and Her
Chinese Pupils and Admirer, Leon
Ling, Seen in City-Telegram Sent
to Father of Murdered Girl Filed
by a Chinaman—Woman Known as
"Joey" Wanted by the Police.

Believing that the solution of the mystery surrounding the murder of Elsie Sigel is to be found in Washington, the entire detective force of the Central Office last night followed clues which may lead to the arrest of the Chinaman who is thought to have caused her death. The most startling result of the investigation is the theory of the Washington police that Elsie Sigel was murdered in a hotel in this city, and her body bound and forced into the trunk in which it was shipped to New York City.

Detectives learned that a telegram sent from Washington to Elsie Sigel's parents and signed with her initials, was not filed by the girl herself, but by a Chinaman, believed to be Leung Lim, alias William Leon, who is being hunted as the murderer.

The one person whom the police believe knows the whereabouts of Leon is an American girl, named "Joey," who frequented the restaurant in New York where the body of Elsie Sigel was found. If "Joey" can be found, Leon's arrest will follow, declare detectives.

Three Seen in Capital.

Leon, Elsie Sigel, and "Joey" were in Washington together the day Leon sent the telegram to the parents of the murdered girl, according to detectives who searched every nook and corner in Chinatown. Persons were found by the police who declare they saw the three together, and that they stopped at a hotel in Pennsylvania avenue.

A representative of The Washington Herald was informed that a Chinaman, who answers the description of Leon stopped at the St. James Hotel, which is across Pennsylvania avenue from the telegraph office where Leon filed the telegram. A reporter examined the hotel register, but found no signature which resembled the names Leung Lim, or William Leon. Hotel clerks were asked if a Chinaman had stopped at the hotel in the last two or three weeks. They remembered that a Chinaman had been at the St. James until a few days ago. This Chinaman did not answer the description of Leon, however, and has been known by employees at the hotel for ten years or more. He is a stout man, who resides in Baltimore, and would never be mistaken for a Chinaman of Leon's slight build.

The police will not say at what hotel the three persons are supposed to have stopped, for it is not desired that the public learn the location of the hotel until every room has been examined and the list of guests for weeks past investigated. It is in the hotel where the two girls and the Chinaman stopped that the murder is believed to have been committed, and should knowledge of the hotel reach the public, the investigation, detectives believe, would be hampered.

The first knowledge that Leon had been in Washington came to the police of this city yesterday morning with the receipt of a telegram from the New York police. The telegram contained a description of Leon, together with private advice. Detectives were detailed to the case, and the clew offered by the filing of the telegram was taken up.

The telegram was filed at a branch office of the Postal Telegraph Company in the National Hotel on the night of June 12.

POSITIVELY Nearing Last Chance

Balance of the Stock Belonging
to the
Late T. P. CULLEY

Now Being Sold at
ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

WILL SOON BE GONE.

NEW
PIANOS
NEW

**\$300
NOW
\$165**

**YOU
SAVE**

Dealers and
Agents' Profits
and
Commissioners.

**BONA FIDE BARGAINS IN THE
VERY BEST MAKES OF
Celebrated Pianos**

MAKER'S OWN GUARANTEE
WITH EVERY PIANO SOLD.

ONLY COST AND LESS
IS BEING ASKED.
Every Piano Plainly Priced.
OPEN EVENINGS.

EASY TERMS TO ALL.

The Culley Estate
523 11th St. N. W.

CIRCULAR TO POLICE.

The following circular has been
sent to every police precinct in
the city:

"Arrest for homicide Leon
Ling, alias William Leon, thirty
years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall;
weight, 125 pounds; smooth face
and good teeth, black hair and
eyes; hair cut American fashion,
and dressed in black suit."

It was received by the slain girl's
father the same night in his home at
209 Wadsworth avenue. The girl had
disappeared from her home on June 3, and
the telegram received three days later
was the first word from her.

The telegram read:
"Will be home soon Sunday. Do not
worry."

Signed with Initials.

It was signed with Elsie Sigel's initials. Mr. Sigel did not believe the telegram was sent by his daughter because of the peculiar phrasing. The Washington police learned that the telegram was not written in Elsie Sigel's handwriting, and also found that the girl was not present when the telegram was filed.

A well dressed Chinaman, whose description tallies with that of Leon, entered the telegraph office and filed the telegram. The man mentioned that he was stopping at the St. James Hotel, but was believed to have been said as a ruse to throw the police off the trail.

Detectives assert they believe Elsie Sigel was murdered before the telegram was filed, and it is thought the Chinaman sent the message to further delay the search for the girl and give him time to make his escape.

Whether Leon left Washington after filing the telegram or went to a hiding place in this city, the police are at a loss to say. Detectives familiar with the ins and outs of Washington Chinatown say a fugitive Celestial would not seek a hiding place here, because the chances of his discovery are greater than in other cities where more Chinamen live.

It is believed probably that Leon is still in Washington, and the police say the girl "Joey" will be found here if she is located at all. She is well known in New York, and would not return to the metropolis if she wished to elude the police.

Frederick Stoffregen is the operator at the branch office in the National Hotel who received the telegram from the Chinaman. Stoffregen has been ordered to give out no information by officials of the Postal Telegraph Company, and he has obeyed these instructions, refusing to talk to detectives.

Stoffregen was alone in the telegraph office when the Chinaman entered, and, as few Celestials speak English, it is thought the operator noticed the man more carefully than the ordinary sender of a telegram. Stoffregen can identify Leon, or the Chinaman who sent the telegram, and the man is caught. The operator's testimony will be important.

Manager Guards Telegram.

F. B. Travis, manager of the Postal Telegraph Company, is said to be in possession of the telegram. Mr. Travis is quoted as saying he will not give up the telegram unless by order of the court, as the telegram is the property of the company, which cannot produce it except by order of the sender. It is understood the police will ask District Attorney Baker to petition the court to order the company to produce the paper.

Concerning the theory that Elsie Sigel was murdered in Washington, detectives say the method by which she was put to death shows that the murderer was afraid her cries would be heard. Her death resulted from strangulation, and no blood was spilled. It is believed the girl could have been killed in a hotel room at any hour of the day or night without persons in adjoining rooms suspecting a tragedy was being enacted.

Her death once assured, the disposal of her body was simple, say the police. Tying the body and stuff in a trunk, it could be forced in a large trunk, the murderer placed the body in the trunk, forced down the lid, and locked it.

Bound with Ropes.

With ropes he bound it so it would not break open while being handled. Addressing it to the chop suey restaurant, the man probably asked to have the trunk shipped, and left the room. The trunk was removed to a railway station and placed on a train for New York.

New York police have been unable to learn when the trunk was placed in the room where it was found, and detectives have been unable to find any one who knows who placed the trunk in the room. The trunk was not discovered until the proprietor of the restaurant below was annoyed by a strange odor and investigated.

Police Search the City.

Every Chinese restaurant, laundry, store, and lodging-house in Washington was searched last night by detectives looking for the murderer of the Sigel girl.

Shortly before 12 o'clock the detail reported to Night Chief of Detectives Hartley that no man answering a description of Leon had been found. The detectives reported they were unable to locate Chinamen who had seen the Celestial, although it is known Leon was in Washington, and is believed to be still here.

A man whose name the police decided to make public notified the central office he had seen a Chinaman who looked like Leon early in the morning. The Chinaman was walking north in Eighth street between D and E streets northwest. The man who gave this information said he did not pay particular attention to the incident until he saw a description of Leon in a newspaper. Then he remembered, he said, that the description fitted the Chinaman he had seen in Eighth street.

The police do not believe the Chinaman was Leon, as the man would not venture in the streets in daylight. The informant said he had no idea where the Chinaman was going.

MAY BE IN PITTSBURG.

Detectives Put Chinamen Through
Third Degree Seeking Slayer.

Pittsburg, June 19.—The Chinamen for whom the police of the world are searching in connection with the murder of Elsie Sigel, in New York, are believed to be in Pittsburg.

In compliance with a telegram from New York to-day, fifteen detectives were put on the search of the men who are said to have hid themselves in this city. There are about 7,000 Chinamen in Pittsburg, and many of them are being given the "third degree."

Captain of Detectives William Elmore received word from the New York police to look out for Leung Lim and his cousin, Chin Sing, who are suspected of the murder, and are believed to have struck out for Pittsburg soon after they left New York. This is believed to be the most logical course to be pursued by the Chinamen. In most of the other larger cities in the United States they are well known, but they have never been in Pittsburg, and it is thought they might have come here.

SIGEL GIRL'S SLAYER FOUND A RIVAL

Continued from Page One.

Just think of the sacrifices I have made for you—my family, my friends. For God's sake, don't forsake me—Elsie."

The brutal murder of the girl has spread consternation among the hundreds of settlement workers in New York and Brooklyn, who are mostly young women, teaching individual Chinese religion. Out of the crime of the Chinese Don Juan, whose room was decorated with hundreds of letters from white mission workers, there threatens to arise a mass of scandal which will spread to other homes and to other cities.

Close to Women Workers.

The death of Elsie Sigel has revealed just how close the white women workers and the Chinese are brought together in the missions. The police have learned that Elsie Sigel, from the time she was a child, had been brought into contact with the Chinese through her mother's mission activities. She grew up in the mission work and finally came to regard it as her life work to save the souls of the Chinese.

In the course of her work she met Leon, whom letters found in his room show to have made a practice of making love to his various teachers. He fell in love with her, the police say, and the murder was the inevitable result.

Traces of Poison Found.

The autopsy held on the body of the girl this afternoon by Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon showed traces of poison in the stomach and intestines of the girl. Whether the poison was administered and was one of the causes of death Dr. O'Hanlon would not say, as he contended the poison traces may have been the result of decomposition.

The cause of death he ascribed as asphyxiation by strangulation. The organs, however, were sealed up and sent to the Columbia College of Medicine, where a chemical analysis will be made.

Elsie Sigel wrote Leon thirty-five letters in the last two years, nearly every letter studded with phrases of endearment.

Her letters to "Dearest Lim," together with affectionate or imploring notes from another white woman, who signed herself "Nellie," and packets of picture post cards from a dozen white women, were found in the room of the Chinaman early this morning, when the detectives poked about in Leung's disordered effects for clues to the murdered girl's identity.

They were scattered here and there among hundreds of pictures of women, all white women; photographs of actresses, colored post cards showing girls in the lowest of low-necked dresses, calendars displaying full formed women in the flimsiest drapery; suggestive prints, picked up, apparently, from Chinese sources, and high-colored lithographs selected to fit in Leung's singular gallery.

Some of the letters were undated. Others went back to the spring of 1907. Still others had been written recently, within a few weeks.

All of them were signed simply "Elsie," but they contained allusions that left no doubt as to the identity of the girl who wrote them.

A few of the longer ones reproved Leung Lim for coldness toward a girl who loved him, but many held no hint that she doubted the Chinaman's affection.

DO NOT FAIL TO READ THIS WRITE-UP TO-DAY

Letters Containing False Statements Received
by Some of Our Contestants.

IT IS DANGEROUS TO GIVE THEM ATTENTION

The Only Information to Be Had Is That You Must
Work Hard to Win.

We are making an especial talk to you to-day about our Second Grand Prize, the White Steamer. You cannot know too much about this excellent car, and we are not going to allow you to forget that we are giving one away free. We have no idea who will win it, but whoever the fortunate may be, he or she will have proven what hard work will do in a contest of this kind, where every contestant is treated with the same degree of consideration and each one has the same opportunity of winning.

A number of contestants have received one or more letters from a certain resident of Washington, the letters containing the statement that the writer was in possession of information as to the amount of money it would take to "win" in this contest, and that this information would be sold to the highest bidder. We told you something about this in yesterday's write-up, but since then some of the contestants who received these letters have been good enough to send them to the Contest Manager, who immediately communicated with the writer of the letters to the end that we now have a statement signed by this writer, admitting that the letters and signatures are genuine, but that the statements made in the letters regarding the amount of money necessary to win are false.

We trust that we shall not be compelled to publish this letter, but we shall do so sans hesitation if it is made necessary by further correspondence of this sort.

BELOW IS THE VOTE SCALE WHICH WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL JUNE 26.

Contestants are advised not to wait until after that date to send in subscriptions, as the fact that this scale will then does not necessarily mean that a larger scale will take effect afterward.

THIRD PERIOD—From June 16 to June 26, 1909.

BY MAIL OR CARRIER.	Price.	No. of votes— New Subscrip- tion.	Old Subscrip- tion.
1 month's subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	\$0.50	150	50
3 months' subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	1.50	450	150
6 months' subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	3.00	2,250	750
1 year's subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	6.00	8,500	1,500
2 years' subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	12.00	15,000	4,000
3 years' subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	18.00	19,000	6,500
5 years' subscription Daily & Sunday Herald.....	30.00	65,000

Twenty per cent less votes will be issued where subscriptions are received for the Daily Herald, at \$4.50 a year.

tions. On the contrary, they glowed warmly with assurances of her own devotion.

There was not a word or a syllable in one of them which might point the way to understanding how Elsie Sigel came to her death in the low-ceiled, grimy room above the chop suey shop.

The police heads studied these letters for hours to-night; then, under straight orders from Commissioner Bingham, refused to allow them to be printed in context or substance.

"Take it any way you like," said one in authority at headquarters, "it was not a pleasant story, and no reason appears at present why Elsie Sigel's letters to the queerness mission should be spread in public."

It was sufficient to say that she was in love with the yellow man, and that their intimacy had been close.

Smothered and Strangled.

The girl was smothered and strangled in Leung Lim's room, where other white girls had been many times before, on the evening of Wednesday, June 9.

The detectives thought to-night that there was no reason to doubt that her body had been in Leung's leather trunk ten days.

The Chinaman, known far and wide among the missions of Greater New York as a remarkable convert to Christianity, skipped away on the night of the same day.

At 11 o'clock that night a telegram arrived at the Sigel home, 209 Wadsworth avenue, Washington Heights. It was sent from Washington, and was signed with the girl's initials "E. C. S."

Mrs. Sigel, already worried, saw her daughter had left home in the morning and had not come back and could not be located at the Chinese Mission, 10 Mott street, or any of the other missions where she had met Chinamen, tore it open hastily and read:

"Will be home soon on Sunday evening. Don't worry."

There was not a reasonable chance of that telegram being sent by Elsie Sigel from Washington, but it is very likely, indeed, that whoever strangled her put it in on the wire to mislead the Sigels and delay the uproar and add to his chance of dodging arrest.

Man Sent the Message.

One of the first things the police did to-day was to ask Maj. Sylvester's Washington sleuths to drag the town for traces of Leung Lim. They managed to find out over there that the Lim message was not delivered to the telegraph office by a woman, but they hadn't discovered to-night whether the sender was a Chinaman.

The dead girl's cousin, Mabel Sigel, a girl of nineteen or thereabouts, very pretty, with wavy brown hair, dark eyes, and red cheeks, and not especially distinguished for precision of English, was the only one of the Sigel family who talked at all freely about Elsie or her relations with Chinamen of the missions.

Paul Sigel, Elsie's father, who argued for years against his wife and daughter going about with Chinamen in public places, and finally gave it up as a bad job, closed his mouth grimly.

Neither the police nor anybody else could get five words strung together from him about Elsie or her goings on. His wife, Elsie's mother, who had accompanied the girl among Chinamen for years because of her passion for the purpose of reforming "hop" fiends, went

down under the shock of the horrible news the police took to her house Friday night. She was taken to a sanatorium.

Tells of Elsie's Actions.

Mabel was not a bit unwilling to talk, and she told with apparent frankness all she knew about Elsie's liking for professing Chinamen, and about Elsie's going away from home on the morning of Wednesday, June 9. But Mabel wished it distinctly to be understood that "she wasn't mixed up with any 'Chinks'."

"Elsie and me were the same. No, not a little bit," said Mabel. "I ain't been goin' round with any 'Chinks,' I'll have you know. I ain't got no use for 'em."

Elsie had received a postal card that morning from Mrs. Franz Sigel, her grandmother, who lives in the Bronx. Old Mrs. Sigel was very fond of Elsie, said Mabel, and she knew about the girl's fondness for Chinese companions. She wrote asking the girl to visit her that day, and Elsie got ready to leave the house as soon as she had read the card.

"It's a cinch she didn't dress to go out of town or to make a long stay anywhere," said Mabel.

"She just threw on a lot of old duds, an old three-quarter length tailor-made, a pair of old shoes, and a pink leg-horn hat that had seen better days. I think she put on rubbers, too."

"Somebody called to her as she went out the door to stop at the market and get the family dinner. 'Sure,' she said, just like that. 'I'll send it right in.'"

"And she did, too," said Elsie's brother Reginald, a youth of nineteen. "It was corned beef, and it came along right after she left."

Had Engagement with Leon.

The detectives were forced to the conclusion that the girl went down town to keep an appointment with Leung Lim, and went with the Chinaman to his room on the fourth floor of 73 Eighth avenue. They cannot believe that any other theory is tenable save that she was murdered the evening of the day she left home, and that the murderer fled in sharp haste the moment he had disposed of the body.

They tried to sweat something out of the three Chinamen that were arrested late Friday night, Yee Kim, a waiter in the chop suey house; Tchin Song, the cook, and Ong Wing, all of Chinatown. When these inscrutable persons were taken before Coroner Harburger to-day they had troned all expression out of their faces. It was a case of "No sassy" and the bluntest of looks.

Capt. Carr believed the waiter and the cook must have known something about the presence of white women in the rooms that Sun Leung, the proprietor, rented to Leung Lim and Chung Sing, also missing. But Yee Kim and Tchin Song insisted calmly that they "no looked."

Celestial's Tongue Loosened.

Finally, Clifford Lowy, a fourteen-year-old boy, testified that he had seen Ong Wing at Coney Island with Sun Leung, which loosened Ong Wing's tongue a bit. Then Yee Kim remembered that Mrs. Sigel came to the restaurant last Sunday night inquiring for Leung Lim, or William Leon, as the mission people called him.

When she heard that the "Boss," Sun Leung, was out, and that everybody else she asked for was out, she dropped into a chair for a few minutes, saying nothing. Then she went away.

Lee Kim protested with growing volubility that he did not know Elsie Sigel.

Denied White Women's Presence.

The police wanted to know from Tchin Song if white women were accustomed to visit the Chinese roomers. They put that question to the cook pretty savagely, but the Chinaman merely spread out his hands with a calm denial that no white women had ever been in the place.

After that they sent the three to the house of detention until they were wanted.

When the detectives looked around for Sun Leung, who directed them to the body Friday night, and who practically shared rooms with Leung Lim and Chung Sing, the chop suey man had slipped away.

He couldn't be found for the coroner's inquiry this morning, and the detective had not been able to locate him to-night. They want Sun badly to answer questions about how many white women were entertained by the playful Chinaman to whom he rented rooms.

Left All Their Clothes.

The extreme disorder of these rooms indicated how much of a hurry Sun Leung's roomers were in to get away.

Both Leung Lim and Chung Sing left behind all their clothes except the things they wore. Several pairs of new shoes, some of them stiffened with boot trees, were under the beds.

No attempt had been made to collect Elsie Sigel's letters or any of the other tokens the Americanized Chinamen had received from their Sunday school teacher and other girl friends.

All of these things backed up the assumption that they fled as soon as the girl's body had been packed into the trunk.

The condition of the body was almost evidence enough in itself that she had come to her death ten days ago or on the night of June 9. Old hands at the detective game said they never had rummaged in such a hodge-podge of odds and ends, such a heterogeneous collection of souvenirs as the two escaped Chinamen scattered around in their rooms.

What struck them first of all was the quantity of pictures of women on the walls, lying on tables and mantelpieces, strewn about the floor, tucked away in drawers, even hidden under the beds. There were no less than a dozen colored photographs of a show girl who was extremely decorative. There were photographs of rather comely young women in evening dress. The names of these had been scratched off the backs of the cards.

Pictures in Tights.

There were pictures of girls in tights, of girls in very short skirts, of girls in scanty draperies in all sorts of poses. Wherever you looked around the rooms that these professing young Christians occupied there were cheap prints of women, most of whom were decidedly underdressed.

Various women friends had sent or brought to the rooms little post cards and souvenirs for Leung Lim, or William Leon, as they knew him. One card, not addressed and which had not passed through the mails, bore the inscription:

"With love, from Mrs. Hill."

From one thing and another detectives became convinced that several women had been in the habit of visiting the rooms over Sun Leung's chop suey shop.

They were women, the police say, who took a great interest in the two good, religiously minded boys, Leung Lim and Chung Sing, and went to the upper floors of the place to encourage the Chinamen.

Saw Women Enter Place.

People in the neighborhood said they had seen young white women go into the place often, and there was enough evidence in the rooms themselves to show that their stories were probably the truth.

Once the letters and post cards had been taken from the rooms there was little left to interest the detectives. They roamed widely to pick up scraps of information bearing on the case. They

LANSBURGH & BRO.

420 to 426 7th Street. 417 to 425 8th Street.

Women's Suits

\$30 Women's and Misses' Suits . . . \$8.95

75 Women's and Misses' Suits; all the new spring models, in plain colors and fancy mixtures. Worth \$30.00. Special **\$8.95**

\$32.50 Women's Suits . . \$10.95

One rack of Women's Suits, of plain or fancy serge; all the new, desirable shades; plain tailored or trimmed coats. Worth \$32.50. Special **\$10.95**

The Greatest Bargains Ever Offered in

COLORED AND WHITE WASH MATERIALS



Included in this sale you will find the following seasonable and desirable fabrics:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 29c 32-in. Lisle Tissue. | 29c 31-in. Natural Linen. |
| 50c 28-in. Silver Tower Grenadine. | 50c Colored French Batiste, Plaid and Striped. |
| 50c 28-in. Col. French Pique. | 50c and 75c 69-in. Plain Colored Organdies. |
| 50c 27-in. White Embroidered Swiss. | 29c 28-in. Colored Pongees. |
| 50c 28-in. White Plaid Batiste, and Madras. | 25c and 29c Belfast Dimities |

DISPLAYED ON BARGAIN TABLES—Wash Goods Section, 8th Street Annex.

CHRISTIAN XANDER'S FAMOUS "WHITE BRANDY."

Pure and delicate. It preserves and promotes the clean flavor and savor of the fruits.

Only obtainable at the "Quality House," 909 7th St. N. W.